(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve its waste management?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes Sir, the Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI) in their recent review on environment has reported that the total generation of wsste has gone up from 47 million tonnes in 1997 to 60 million tonnes in 2002, representing an annual growth of around 5 percent.

(b) No, Sir. As per the information obtained from India Council for Agriculture Research (ICAR), the area affected by water logging and salinization is 9 and 9.2 million hectares respectively constituting 2.7 and 2.8 per cent respectively of the total geographical area of 328.5 million hectares in the country.

(c) As per rough estimates of ICAR, the loss of production due to salinity may be between 11 to 26% in the agricultural sector.

(d) The ICAR has developed technologies, encompassing use of amendments, improved drainage and varieties tolerant to water logging and salinity for reclamation of water-logged and saline soils through All-India Coordinated Research Projects operating at various centers in the country. As far as the solid waste management is concerned, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has implemented a Centrally sponsored scheme on "balanced and integrated use of fertilizer" during Eighth and Ninth Five-Year Plan, in which 21 compost production units were established by different municipalities in different States. In addition to it, the Department has assisted 9 mechanized compost production plants from municipal bio-degradable wastes during 1999—2001 in the country. To improve the waste management, several steps are taken by the Government, which include, the Notification of Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 and the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

National Board of Wildlife

1133. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bombay Natural History Society has been

denied a chair on the newly organised National Board of Wildlife alondj with the World Wildlife Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the name of the organisation adjusted in place of BNHS?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The National Board for Wildlife has been constituted for the first time under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The question of adjusting any organisation against another does not arise. As per section 5A of the Act, five representatives of Non-Governmental Organisations and ten persons from amongst eminent conservationists, ecologists and environmentalists are to be nominated by Government. Accordingly, the heads of the following Non-Govemmental Organisations have been nominated:

(i) Bandhavgarh Foundation Trust, Rewa, Madhya Pradesh;

(ii) Prakrity Samsad, Kolkata, West Bengal;

(iii) Foundation for Revitalisation of Local Health Traditions, Bangalore, Karnataka;

(iv) C.P. Ramaswamy Environmental Education Centre, Chennai,Tamil Nadu; and

(v) Gujarat Ecological Education and Research Foundation, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

The Vice President of the Bombay Natural History Society, Ms. Dilnawaz Variawa and the Secretary General of the World Wide Fund for Nature, Shri Ravi Singh, are also on the Board as eminent conservationists, ecologists and environmentalists.

Impact of Jhada Bandha irrigation project on wildlife in Orissa

1134. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that irrigation project at Jhada Bandha in the Ganjam district of Orissa, has been approved, which would involve submergence of a large portion of prime forestland;